

Message Text

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TAGS:MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REFS: A. USNATO 1448; B. USNATO 1735

1. FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS ON US REPORT TO CONGRESS ON
THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCE POSTURE IN EUROPE PURSUANT TO
PL 93-365, AND DISTRIBUTION IN NATO OF THAT REPORT, WE
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DESIRE THAT FULLER RECOGNITION OF CATEGORIES OF NEEDED

IMPROVEMENTS TO THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES BE REFLECTED IN DRAFT OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. CHANGES TO DRAFT THAT YOU SHOULD PURSUE ARE SET OUT BELOW.

A. PARA 19(B) SHOULD BE REWRITTEN AS FOLLOWS: QTE A SECURE CAPABILITY FOR THE EFFECTIVE AND CONTROLLED USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS FOR TACTICAL PURPOSES. THIS CAPABILITY SHOULD BE OF SUCH SIZE, BALANCE AND CHARACTER, AND SO DEPLOYED AND ORGANIZED AS TO PROVIDE CREDIBLE OPTIONS TO ENHANCE THE DEFENSE AND TO LINK THE CONVENTIONAL AND STRATEGIC NUCLEAR FORCES OF NATO. UNQTE.

B. MOST IMPORTANT, ADD EITHER AS NEW PARA 37 OR AS ADDITION TO PRESENT PARA 36 (WITH SUITABLE FIX IN LEAD-IN TO PARA 36 TO ADD THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES) THE FOLLOWING: QTE THE DETERRENT POSTURE OF THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES SHOULD BE ENHANCED THROUGH MODERNIZATION OF WEAPONS, THROUGH

IMPROVED SURVIVABILITY OF FORCES AND WEAPONS UNDER CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR ATTACK, INCLUDING CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN SECURITY OF NUCLEAR WEAPON STORAGE SITES, THROUGH IMPROVED TARGET ACQUISITION CAPABILITIES, THROUGH IMPROVED COMMAND AND CONTROL AND SITUATION REPORTING CAPABILITIES WHICH PROVIDE FOR MORE RAPID AND RELIABLE COMMUNICATION OF NECESSARY INFORMATION TO POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERS, AND THROUGH THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTIVE, CAREFULLY CONTROLLED OPTIONS."

C. SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 56 SHOULD ALSO BE MODIFIED TO READ, "THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES WILL RETAIN THEIR IMPORTANCE IN THE NATO TRIAD AND WILL REQUIRE MODERNIZATION AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS."

D. THESE CHANGES REFLECT RELEVANT PORTIONS OF BOTH SECDEF POSTURE STATEMENT AND NUNN NUCLEAR REPORT. YOU CAN ASSURE ALLIES THAT THIS DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY CHANGE IN US POLICY BUT IS MEANT TO ENHANCE THE DETERRENT PROVIDED BY THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES. FYI: WE INTEND TO VIGOROUSLY PURSUE MEASURES UNDER THESE CONFIDENTIAL

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HEADINGS, AND REQUIRE A PEG IN THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE FOR THE PURPOSE. END FYI.

2. WE BELIEVE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE SHOULD NOT COMPLETELY DISCOUNT THE IMPROVED POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THEREFORE, YOU SHOULD SUGGEST THAT THE SECTION ON "THE THREAT", PARA 10 BE CHANGED AS FOLLOWS:

A. IN FIRST SENTENCE, PARA 10, INSERT "AND ON OTHER ARMS CONTROL ISSUES" AFTER "(SALT)". THIS WOULD COVER TTBT/PNE, CW, AND ENMOD.

B. CHANGE SECOND SENTENCE PARA 10 TO READ: "DESPITE SOME IMPROVEMENT IN POLITICAL RELATIONS RESULTING FROM THESE NEGOTIATIONS, THE BENEFITS AND EXPECTATIONS IN TERMS OF POLITICAL RELAXATION STILL REMAIN TO BE TRANSLATED INTO INCREASED MILITARY SECURITY. WHILE THESE DEVELOPMENTS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THIS GUIDANCE, THEY AS YET DO NOT PROVIDE A FIRM BASIS FOR ALTERING THE ASSUMPTIONS UPON WHICH IT MUST CONTINUE TO BE BASED."

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